

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 293490

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HABIB

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP, US

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE BASE NEGOTIATIONS

1. THE SECRETARY MET WITH ROMULO IN MEXICO CITY YESTERDAY. THEY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE ON THE COMPLETION OF THE BASE AGREEMENT IN AS SHORT A TIME AS POSSIBLE WITH A FINANCIAL PACKAGE OF ONE BILLION DOLLARS DIVIDED AMONG GRANTS AND CREDITS WITH THE TOTAL EQUALLY DIVIDED BETWEEN ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID. ROMULO WILL BE COMING TO WASHINGTON ON DECEMBER 4 AT WHICH TIME THERE WILL BE A JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE, THE TEXT OF WHICH APPEARS AT THE END OF THIS MESSAGE.

2. THIS WILL MEAN RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS IN MANILA ON AN URGENT BASIS. YOU WILL BE GETTING OUR LATEST REVIEW OF OUR NEGOTIATING POSITION, COORDINATED WITH DEFENSE, AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

3. ALL OF THIS IS BEING HELD VERY CLOSELY UNTIL ANNOUNCEMENT. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED AND THERE IS NO
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NEED FOR ANY ACTION ON YOUR PART AT THIS POINT.

4. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT:

BEGIN TEXT:

GENERAL CARLOS P. ROMULO, SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A KISSINGER MET ON DECEMBER 4, 1976, FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE MILITARY BASE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN IN PROGRESS SINCE APRIL 12, 1976.

THE TWO SECRETARIES ANNOUNCED THAT AS A RESULT OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS IN OCTOBER DURING WHICH THE BASIC LINES WERE WORKED OUT, THEY HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE NATURE OF A NEW MILITARY BASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE THE USE OF MILITARY BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT. AS PART OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT, THE UNITED STATES WOULD PROVIDE, SUBJECT TO NECESSARY LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL, OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS, THE SUM OF ONE BILLION DOLLARS IN GRANTS AND CREDITS, THE TOTAL TO BE DIVIDED EQUALLY BETWEEN MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE NEGOTIATING PANELS IN MANILA WILL RESUME THEIR WORK SHORTLY IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THE REMAINING ISSUES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND ARRIVE AT A MUTUALLY AGREED TEXT. THE FINAL AGREEMENT WILL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES.

END TEXT
ROBINSON

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NNN

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